



M/045/017

BARRICK GOLD CORPORATION

8 East Broadway

Suite 510 720

Salt Lake City, Utah

84111

December 21, 1998

Mr. Lowell P. Braxton, Director  
Division of Oil, Gas & Mining  
Utah Department of Natural Resources  
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210  
Box 145801  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

Mr. Don A. Ostler, Director  
Division of Water Quality  
Utah Department of Environmental Quality  
288 North 1460 West  
P.O. Box 144870  
Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Dear Mr. Braxton and Mr. Ostler:

Re: Mercur Mine

On behalf of Barrick Gold Corporation, I wish to thank both of you and your staffs for the unprecedented effort expended during the closure of the Mercur Mine this past year. The mutual level of success attained could not have been accomplished without the commitment of each Division during our monthly closure progress meetings and the resultant work that followed each meeting. We look forward continuing this successful relationship during the upcoming final closure years for Mercur.

I would like to offer a special thanks to Dennis Frederick, Keith Eagan, and Steve McNeal from UDWQ, and Wayne Hedberg, Lynn Kunzler, Tom Munson, Tony Gallegos, and of course Mary Ann Wright from UDOGM. These environmental professionals have provided both Barrick and the State of Utah the very best in environmental management.

As you are painfully aware, I have been associated with each of you for many years relating to both Mercur & non-Mercur issues. Over the years we have had our differences and our agreements but have managed to keep our relationships both personable & professional. I just want you to know that these relationships are very meaningful to me.

Again, on behalf of Barrick and the former staff at Mercur, our thanks.

Respectfully;

Glenn M. Eurick

Director Environmental Relations US

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|----|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| C: | C.L. Landa (BMM)    | L. Boteilho (BMM)   | J.T. McDonough (BGC) |
|    | D. Nielson (UDEQ)   | K. Clarke (UDNR)    |                      |
|    | D. Frederick (UDWQ) | K. Eagan (UDWQ)     | S. McNeal (UDWQ)     |
|    | W. Hedberg (UDOGM)  | L. Kunzler (UDOGM)  | T. Gallegos (UDOGM)  |
|    | T. Munson (UDOGM)   | M.A. Wright (UDOGM) |                      |